

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15145 071733Z

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ACTION SS-30

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3192

S E C R E T MOSCOW 15145

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR, US

SUBJC TTBT-PNE NEGOTIATIONS

1. NEGOTIATIONS FORMALLY OPENED AT 4:30 MONDAY AFTERNOON OCTOBER 7. THIS CABLE REPORTS ON EVENTS OF THIS OPENING ONLY. REPORTS ON PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS MONDAY OCTOBER 7 WILL BE CABLED SEPARATELY.

2. AFTER BRIEF WELCOMING REMARKS, MOROKHOV INTRODUCED EACH MEMBER OF HIS DELEGATION (SEPTTEL), THEN MENTIONED PROCEDURAL MATTERS INCLUDING ALTERNATION OF CHAIRMEN BETWEEN SIDES, INFORMAL AGENDA, AND LOCATION OF MEETINGS AT STATE COMMITTEE OFFICES. HE STATED UNDERSTANDING THAT MEETINGS WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL.

3. STOESSEL RESPONDED TO WELCOME, THEN INTRODUCED US DELEGATION.

4. MORKHOV STATEMENT INTENDED TO OUTLINE GENERAL APPROACH AND DESCRIBE TASKS TO BE SOLVED. DESCRIBED NEGOTIATIONS AS SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF EXPANDING COOPERATION AND STRENGTHENING TIES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. STATED NEGOTIATIONS FOLLOW DIRECTLY FROM JULY 1974 MOSCOW TREATY. MENTIONED TREATY SIGNIFICANCE TO BOTH SIDES AS A MAJOR STEP TOWARD LIMITATIONS ON NUCLEAR ARMS, AS A DIRECT EXTENSION

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 15145 071733Z

OF THE LTBT, AND AS A MEASURE STRENGTHENING DETENTE.

EMPHASIZED THAT CTBT IS SOVIET GOAL, CITING BREZHNEV STATEMENT OF 6 OCTOBER. MORKHOV THEN LINKED NEGOTIATIONS DIRECTLY TO NPT ALSO, STATING THAT NPT IMPOSES DEFINITIVE OBLIGATIONS ON US AND USSR REGARDING PNES. MENTIONED THAT PARTIES ARE SOON TO CONVENE ON OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF ARTICLE V. HE ENDED ON AN EXPRESSION OF HOPE AND CONFIDENCE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONSTRUCTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL AND LEAD TO MORE US/SOVIET COOPERATION.

5. STOESSL IN BRIEF STATEMENT BEGAN BY NOTING THAT WE WERE PLEASED TO BEGIN THE IMPORTANT TASK OF PREPARING AN AGREEMENT ON PNE CALLED FOR IN ARTICLE III OF THE TTBT. DEVISING AN AGREEMENT PRESENTS A VARIETY OF COMPLEX ISSUES, AND WE CAME HERE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PREPARING A BASIS FOR AN AGREEMENT WORKING OPENLY AND CANDIDLY TO THAT END. HE NOTED THE INTEREST IN THE NPT AND ARTICLE V AND ITS IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP TO ARTICLE III OF THE TTBT. THE PROTOCOL TO THE TTBT PRESCRIBES RESTRICTIONS ON NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS AND PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR VERIFICATION; BUT DOES NOT APPLY TO EXPLOSIONS AWAY FROM THE TEST SITES FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES. THE TASK OF CONSTRUCTING ANALOGOUS RESTRICTIONS AND VERIFICATION PROVISIONS FOR PNES STILL LIES AHEAD. AN AGREEMENT CALLED FOR IN ARTICLE III WILL HAVE TO REFLECT THE TWO POINTS THAT ALL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AT SPECIFIED TEST SITES WILL BE CONSIDERED NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS AND ALL NUCLEAR WEAPON TESTS SHALL BE CONDUCTED SOLELY AT SUCH TEST SITES. THE ACHIEVEMENT REFLECTED IN THE TTBT SHOULD ENCOURAGE US THAT OUR EFFORTS CAN BE SUCCESSFUL.

6. MORKHOV REMARKED THAT US STATEMENT RAISED SOME POINTS WHICH WILL REQUIRE PROFOUND REFLECTION, AND RAISED CERTAIN DOUBTS ON OTHER POINTS. (THE MEANING OF THIS OBSERVATION WAS NOT MADE CLEAR.)

7. NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 1030 WEDNESDAY 9 OCT.

8. PASS TO AEC - H. B. CURTIS. PLEASE SEND, BY CABLE
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 15145 071733Z

IF NO LONGER THAN TWO PAGES, A COPY OF ALL STATEMENTS, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, WHICH WERE AGREED TO BY BOTH SIDES AT THE END OF THE THIRD STAGE BILATERAL TECHNICAL TALKS OF JULY, 1971.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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